

# Grand Mediterranean Cruise

October 3 to 24, 2026

21 nights aboard the Sun Princess

(7 and 14 night options are available as well)



# Athens, Greece

Before embarking on your Grand Mediterranean Cruise from Athens, there are several fascinating sites you can explore in this historic city. Athens is deeply rooted in Greek mythology and is alive with stories from ancient civilizations. Here are some highlights:

**Temple of Olympian Zeus:** This colossal temple is dedicated to Zeus, the king of the Olympian gods. It's one of the largest temples ever built in the ancient world<sup>1</sup>.

**Acropolis:** A must-visit, the Acropolis is home to several ancient buildings of great architectural and historic significance, including the Parthenon<sup>1</sup>.

**Acropolis Museum:** This museum houses iconic sculptures and artifacts from the Acropolis, beautifully bathed in natural light<sup>1</sup>.

**Lively Tavernas:** Enjoy dining at the city's vibrant tavernas, where you can savor traditional Greek cuisine<sup>1</sup>.

These sites offer a glimpse into the rich history and culture of Athens, making your pre-cruise experience truly memorable.





# Bar, Montenegro

Bar, Montenegro, is a beautiful coastal town known for its stunning views, rich history, and charming old town. It is surrounded by impressive fortifications built during the Venetian period and is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site<sup>1</sup>. Here are some highlights about Bar:

**Historical Significance:** Bar has a history dating back to ancient Roman times when it was known as Acrvium. The city has been fortified since the early Middle Ages.

**Natural Beauty:** The Bay of Bar is one of the most indented parts of the Adriatic Sea, often referred to as the southernmost fjord in Europe, although it is actually a ria, a submerged river canyon<sup>1</sup>.

**Tourist Attractions:** Visitors can explore the old town, climb up to the San Giovanni Fortress for spectacular views, and get lost in the narrow streets and alleys.





# Corfu, Greece

Corfu is a beautiful Greek island in the Ionian Sea, known for its rich history, stunning landscapes, and vibrant culture. Here are some highlights about Corfu

**Corfu Town:** Heavily influenced by the Venetians, the French, and the English, Corfu Town is an excellent starting point for exploring the island. You can get lost in the small cobblestone lanes known as "kandounia," visit museums like the Museum of Asian Art, wander down the famed Liston promenade, or saunter around the massive Spianada square.

**Achilleion Museum:** This museum is dedicated to the mythical hero Achilles and is a must-visit for history enthusiasts.

**Angelokastro:** A Byzantine castle located on the highest peak of the island, offering breathtaking views of the surrounding area.

**Old Town:** A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Old Town of Corfu is perfect for exploring its spectacular alleyways and piazzas, admiring the unique architectural blend, visiting numerous museums, and savoring local fare in small, elegant restaurants.





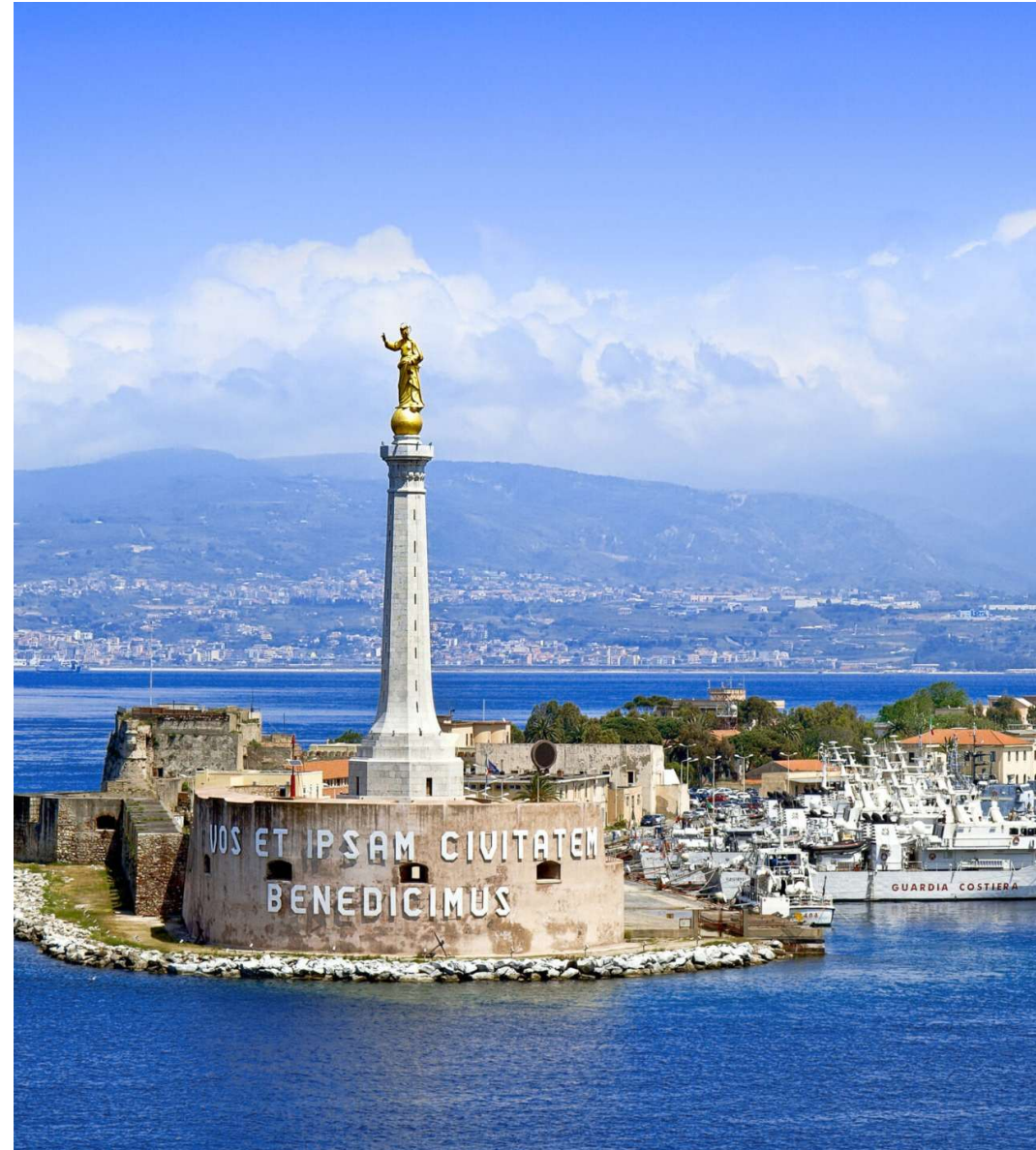
# Sicily (Messina), Italy

Messina is a beautiful harbor city located in Sicily, Italy. It has a rich history dating back to ancient Greece and offers a variety of cultural and natural attractions. Here are some highlights about Messina:

**Messina Cathedral:** The main Catholic church in Messina, the Duomo has stood since 1551. It was originally constructed by a renowned architect from Florence who was a protégé of Michelangelo. The cathedral was damaged during WWII and has been reconstructed to stay true to its original design<sup>2</sup>.

**Piazza del Duomo:** This beautiful square is one of the main attractions in Messina. It is located close to the port and features the Fontana di Orione, the Duomo, and the imposing Bell Tower<sup>2</sup>.

**Messina Bell Tower:** Standing proudly next to the re-mastered Duomo, the Bell Tower is an impressive structure that is part of the trio of attractions in Piazza del Duomo.





# Naples, Italy (for Capri & Pompeii)

Naples, Italy, is a vibrant city with a rich history and serves as a gateway to some of Italy's most famous attractions, including Capri and Pompeii. Here are some highlights you can explore during your cruise:

**Capri:** This stunning island is known for its rugged landscape, upscale hotels, and shopping, from designer fashions to limoncello and handmade leather sandals. Don't miss the Blue Grotto, a dark cavern where the sea glows electric blue, the result of sunlight passing through an underwater cave.

**Pompeii:** The ancient city of Pompeii was buried under volcanic ash and pumice in the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79. Today, it is a vast archaeological site where you can explore the well-preserved ruins of streets, houses, and public buildings.





# Barcelona, Spain

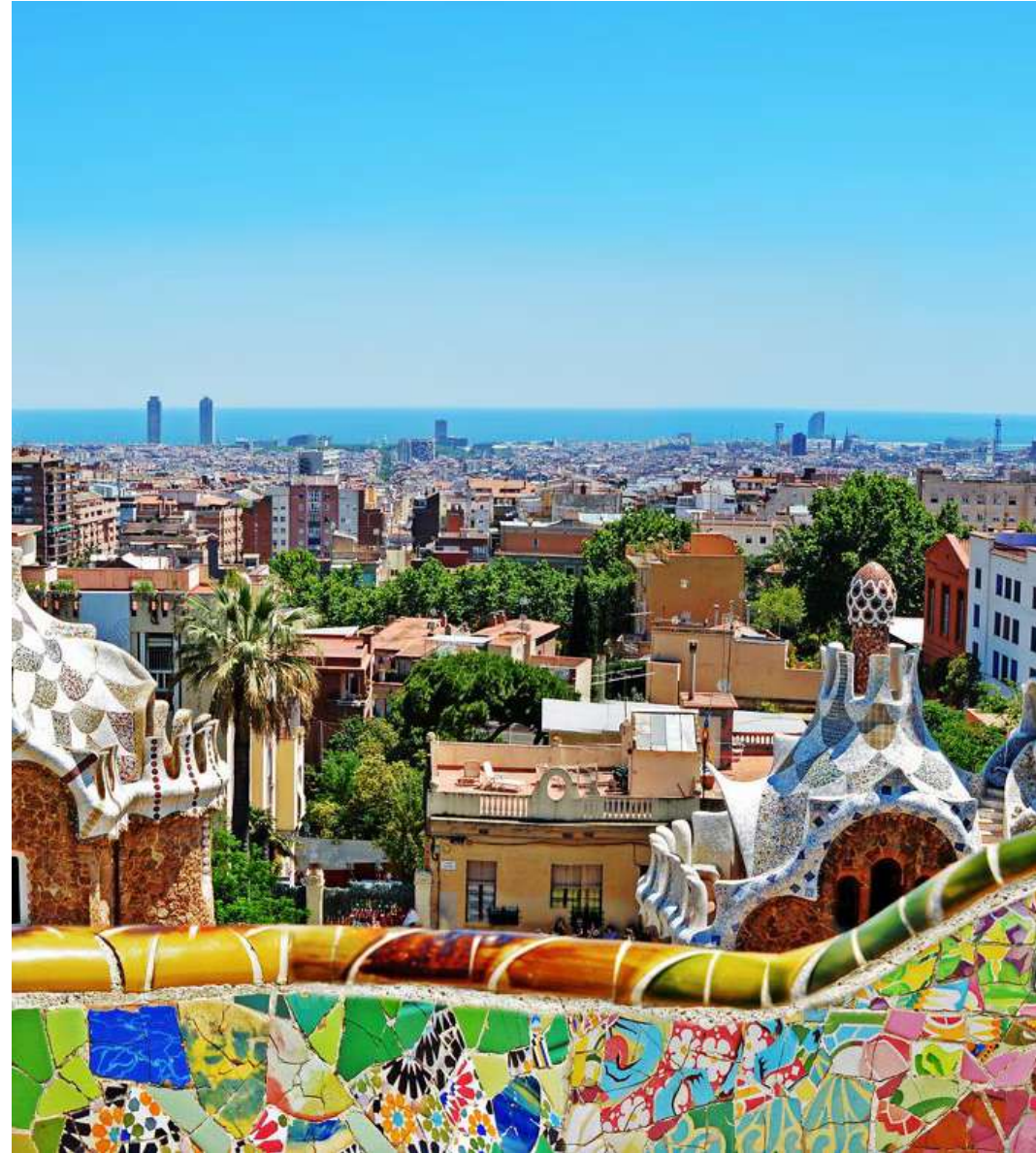
Barcelona, Spain, is a vibrant city known for its unique architecture, rich history, and lively culture. Here are some highlights you can explore during your cruise:

**Sagrada Família:** This iconic basilica, designed by Antoni Gaudí, is a must-visit. Its intricate facades and stunning interior make it one of the most famous landmarks in Barcelona.

**Park Güell:** Another masterpiece by Gaudí, this park offers whimsical architecture, beautiful gardens, and panoramic views of the city.

**La Rambla:** A bustling street in the heart of Barcelona, La Rambla is perfect for a leisurely stroll, shopping, and enjoying street performances.

**Gothic Quarter:** Explore the narrow medieval streets of the Gothic Quarter, home to the Barcelona Cathedral and many charming shops and cafes.



# Ibiza, Spain

Ibiza is a world-famous island in the Mediterranean, part of Spain's Balearic Islands. Known for its stunning beaches, crystal-clear turquoise waters, and vibrant nightlife, Ibiza is a top destination for travelers seeking both relaxation and excitement. The island offers picturesque coves, charming villages, and a laid-back atmosphere during the day, while at night it transforms into a hotspot for music and entertainment, attracting renowned DJs and partygoers from around the globe.

**Dalt Vila (Ibiza Old Town):** A UNESCO World Heritage Site, this fortified old town features cobbled streets, ancient walls, and the impressive Catedral de Santa Maria. It's perfect for exploring history, architecture, and panoramic views.

**Cala Comte:** One of Ibiza's most beautiful beaches, known for its turquoise waters and stunning sunsets. There are several restaurants and bars nearby, making it a great spot to relax. [theculturetrip.com]

**Es Vedrà:** A mystical rocky island off Ibiza's southwest coast, shrouded in legends. The viewpoint offers breathtaking scenery and is a favorite for sunset watchers.

**Ibiza Town (Eivissa)** The island's capital is lively, with luxury shopping, fine dining, and world-famous nightclubs like Pacha and Ushuaïa. Even if you're not into partying, the town is great for strolling and people-watching..





# Marseille (Provence), France

Marseille offers a mix of historical landmarks, cultural experiences, and natural beauty, making it a fantastic destination to explore during your cruise.

**Old Port (Vieux-Port):** The heart of Marseille, the Old Port is a bustling area filled with boats, cafes, and restaurants. It's a great place to take a leisurely stroll and soak in the atmosphere.

**Basilica of Notre-Dame de la Garde:** This iconic basilica offers panoramic views of the city and the Mediterranean Sea. It's a must-visit for its stunning architecture and breathtaking vistas.

**Le Panier:** The oldest district in Marseille, Le Panier is known for its narrow streets, colorful buildings, and vibrant street art. It's a charming area to explore on foot.

**Calanques National Park:** Just outside Marseille, this national park features dramatic limestone cliffs, turquoise waters, and hidden coves. It's perfect for hiking, swimming, and enjoying nature.





# Corsica, France

Ajaccio, Corsica (France)—the capital of Corsica and a highlight on many Mediterranean cruises. Ajaccio is a city where history, culture, and natural beauty blend seamlessly, making it a memorable stop for travelers.

**Maison Bonaparte (Napoleon's Birthplace):** The ancestral home of Napoleon Bonaparte, now a national museum.

**Ajaccio Cathedral:** A beautiful Baroque cathedral where Napoleon was baptized. Noted for its coral-colored façade and peaceful interior.

**The Old Town & Place Foch:** Wander cobbled streets lined with pastel buildings, cafés, and open-air markets. Place Foch is a lively square with a statue of Napoleon and bustling local life.

**Ajaccio Citadel:** A 16th-century Genoese fortress overlooking the sea. Currently being restored and gradually opened to the public.





# Genoa, Italy

Genoa, Italy, is a historic port city with a rich maritime heritage and a vibrant cultural scene. Here are some highlights you can explore during your cruise:

**Porto Antico (Old Port):** This area has been transformed into a lively cultural and entertainment hub, featuring the Aquarium of Genoa, the Bigo Lift, and the Biosphere.

**Palazzi dei Rolli:** These historic palaces are part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site and showcase the grandeur of Genoa's aristocratic past.

**Via Garibaldi:** A beautiful street lined with impressive palaces, museums, and art galleries, perfect for a leisurely stroll.

**Genoa Cathedral (Cattedrale di San Lorenzo):** This stunning cathedral is known for its black-and-white striped facade and impressive interior.





# La Spezia (for Florence/Pisa), Italy

La Spezia is a charming port city in Italy, serving as a gateway to the beautiful cities of Florence and Pisa. Here are some highlights you can explore during your cruise:

**Florence:** Known as the birthplace of the Renaissance, Florence is home to iconic landmarks such as the **Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore (Duomo)**, the **Uffizi Gallery**, and the **Ponte Vecchio**. The city's rich history and stunning architecture make it a must-visit destination.

**Pisa:** Famous for its **Leaning Tower**, Pisa offers more than just this iconic structure. You can also explore the **Piazza dei Miracoli**, which includes the **Cathedral of Pisa** and the **Baptistry**.





# Civitavecchia (for Rome), Italy

Civitavecchia, Italy, serves as the main port for Rome and is a popular stop on Mediterranean cruises. Here are some highlights you can explore during your cruise:

**The Colosseum:** One of the most iconic landmarks in Rome, the Colosseum is an ancient amphitheater that hosted gladiatorial contests and public spectacles.

**The Vatican City:** Home to the Pope and the smallest independent state in the world, the Vatican City houses St. Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel, and the Vatican Museums.

**The Roman Forum:** This area was the center of Roman public life and is now a sprawling archaeological site with ruins of ancient government buildings, temples, and markets.

**Trevi Fountain:** A stunning Baroque fountain where visitors toss coins to ensure their return to Rome.





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# Crete (Chania), Greece

Chania offers a mix of historical landmarks, cultural experiences, and natural beauty, making it a fantastic destination to explore during your cruise.

**Old Venetian Harbor:** This picturesque harbor is a must-visit, with its charming waterfront, historic lighthouse, and numerous cafes and restaurants.

**Chania Archaeological Museum:** Located in a former Venetian monastery, this museum houses artifacts from the Minoan, Roman, and Byzantine periods.

**Samaria Gorge:** A stunning natural wonder, the Samaria Gorge is one of the longest gorges in Europe and offers breathtaking hiking opportunities.

**Chania Old Town:** Wander through the narrow streets of the Old Town, where you can admire the blend of Venetian, Turkish, and Greek architecture.



# Kusadasi, Turkey (for Ephesus)

Kusadasi, Turkey, is a popular port city that serves as a gateway to the ancient city of Ephesus. Here are some highlights you can explore during your cruise:

**Ephesus:** This ancient city is one of the best-preserved classical cities in the Mediterranean. It was once a major trade and religious center and is home to impressive ruins such as the **Library of Celsus**, the **Great Theatre**, and the **Temple of Artemis**, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

**House of the Virgin Mary:** Located on the outskirts of Ephesus, this site is believed to be the final resting place of the Virgin Mary and is a place of pilgrimage for many.

**Kusadasi Bazaar:** A bustling market where you can shop for local goods, souvenirs, and traditional Turkish products.





# Mykonos, Greece

Mykonos, Greece, is a beautiful island known for its stunning beaches, vibrant nightlife, and charming villages. Here are some highlights you can explore during your cruise:

**Mykonos Town (Chora):** The island's capital is a maze of narrow streets, whitewashed houses, and vibrant bougainvillea. It's perfect for a leisurely stroll and exploring local shops and cafes.

**Little Venice:** This picturesque area is known for its colorful houses that are built right on the water's edge. It's a great spot to enjoy a sunset and have a drink at one of the many waterfront bars.

**Windmills of Mykonos:** These iconic windmills are a symbol of the island and offer a great photo opportunity with stunning views of the town and the sea.

**Beaches:** Mykonos is famous for its beautiful beaches, such as Paradise Beach and Super Paradise Beach, which are known for their crystal-clear waters and lively beach clubs.



Choose your stateroom.



**The most affordable option for guests who just want a comfortable spot to recharge**

An interior is the perfect place to recharge your batteries. Our most affordable option, these staterooms feature two twin beds or a queen-side bed and the basic amenities you expect, from flat-panel TV to in-room refrigerator. (Not recommended if you get clausterphobic)



**A room with an expansive view**

Whether the calm of the deep blue sea or the adventure of a new city on the horizon, the stateroom ensures picture-perfect snapshots from the comfort of your room. This stateroom includes all the amenities of an interior room.



**A front row seat for beautiful scenery**

This inspired stateroom offers the added indulgence of a private balcony with well-appointed outdoor furniture and a relaxing view of the scenery that surrounds you, whether a rainbow-colored sunset over the ocean or a new city to explore.



**Treat yourself every time you walk into your stateroom**

A complimentary glass of bubbly isn't the only perk you enjoy when you choose a Mini-Suite. It's substantially larger than a balcony stateroom and includes a separate seating area with a sofa bed and two flat-panel TVs.



If you are interested in joining us, or would like more information, please contact me!

